

The greater knowledge of our ability to be able to respond to those kinds of devastating injuries, physical injuries through weapons, the better off we will be. The more we can find a way to determine and fight against the war against bioterrorism, the better off we will be. Advances in these and many other fields will hinge on our ability to understand and manipulate the human genome and its products. That is why the Human Genome Project was such a great accomplishment, and why we should continue to draw attention to this critical research through Human Genome Month and DNA Day.

This is an excellent resolution, Mr. Speaker, because it educates my colleagues and educates the public.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 11, 2003*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, due to business in my district, I was unable to vote during the following rollcall votes. Had I been present I would have voted: No. 244—"no"; No. 245—"no"; No. 246—"yes"; No. 247—"yes"; No. 248—"yes."

#### TRIBUTE TO THOMAS N. JACOBSON

#### HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 11, 2003*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Thomas N. Jacobson, who recently won the Rabbi Norman F. Feldheim Award for service to our community. Mr. Jacobson is an individual of great distinction, and we join with family and friends in honoring his remarkable achievements and expressing pride in this recognition that has been afforded to him.

Thomas is a remarkable individual who has devoted his life to helping people throughout his community. His kindness and passionate spirit render him a vital resource to his congregation and beloved community member.

For the past 25 years, Thomas has dedicated himself to the Congregation Emanu El, serving as Commission Chair, Legal Counsel, member of the Board of Managers of the Home of Eternity Cemetery, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President, and President. In these capacities, he has been an integral contributor to the management and administration of Congregational affairs, as well as a participant in raising crucial funds for the Congregation.

In addition to these contributions, Thomas has been a partner in the firm of Gresham, Savage, Nolan & Tilden, receiving the highest possible evaluation of his profession for integrity and performance, and has taken a proactive approach to leadership in the community.

Through his participation in countless activities and committees, Thomas has exhibited kindness, love, humility, and a deep resolve to ameliorate all aspects of community life, so it is only appropriate that he receive Rabbi Norman F. Feldheim Award.

I join today with his wife, Lorie, and his daughters, Jolene and Gretchen, in their joy at this wonderful honor he has received. He is a symbol of all that is good in his profession and an inspiration to his community.

And so, Mr. Speaker, we salute Thomas N. Jacobson. We express admiration he has received this wonderful and well-deserved honor and hope that others may recognize his good works in the community.

REMEMBERING MR. ALDO PINESCHI, SR. OF ROSEVILLE, CALIFORNIA

#### HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 11, 2003*

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to remember and honor an outstanding citizen, Mr. Aldo Pineschi, Sr., from the City of Roseville, California. Following a lifetime of dedication to family and community, Aldo Pineschi passed away on May 30, 2003. He was 79 years old.

After his parents emigrated from Northern Italy and settled in Chicago, Aldo was born in the Windy City in 1924. Three years later, the Pineschi family relocated to Roseville, which would remain Aldo's home for the rest of his life. Shortly after graduating from Roseville High School in 1942, he served in the United States Army during World War II in England and France. He returned home in 1945 and wed Claire Bertolucci a year later.

Aldo began his professional life by going to work for the Pacific Fruit Express (PFE) railroad just as his father did. During the nearly 20 years he was with PFE, he also helped raise his four children and attended college. He first attended Placer College (now Sierra College) and eventually completed his degree at California State University, Sacramento. He then went to work for Aerojet for several years.

In 1965, Aldo became the Personnel/Purchasing Manager for the City of Roseville. Then, from 1970 until his retirement in 1980, he served as Roseville's Assistant City Manager. In this capacity, he helped set the stage for Roseville's transformation from a once-sleepy railroad town to what is now a vibrant, well-planned community with award-winning parks, law enforcement, and city management. The City is also home to nationally-recognized, high-performing public schools. Its railroad past blends with its newer high-tech industry and thriving commercial centers. Its residential areas include dynamic new developments as well as historic neighborhoods. In short, Mr. Speaker, Roseville is a model community with a high quality of life and a bright horizon, and Aldo's vision and hard work are a large part of the reason why.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Aldo left a legacy of volunteer service. Many remember his years-long participation with the George Buljian Cooking Crew, a group of community leaders headed by a former mayor, who helped raise over one million dollars for local charities by serving up steak dinners.

Aldo also played an active role in shaping local politics, helping to elect numerous candidates to local offices. In the late 1950s he

himself served on the Roseville Joint Union School District Board of Trustees. He also made a run for the California State Senate, and in 1962, fell just 78 votes shy of becoming Placer County Clerk. His involvement in and discussion of politics was one of his loves.

However, his truest love remained his wife of 57 years, Claire. She survives him, along with their four children and seven grandchildren. These include daughter Leah and son-in-law Mario; son Alan and daughter-in-law Susan; son Aldo, Jr. and his wife Lesli; son Neil; and grandchildren Howard and Gina Gibson; Matt, Michael, and Alina Pineschi; and Evangeline and Anthony Pineschi.

Today, I join with Aldo Pineschi, Sr.'s family, friends, and community to commemorate his life of committed service, good citizenship, and uncommon decency. May he rest in peace.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF VIC SOOD ON HIS SERVICE TO THE LIVERMORE AMADOR VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

#### HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 11, 2003*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Vic Sood, General Manager of the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA), as he prepares to retire after 32 years of service in public transportation. For his unyielding commitment and dedication to running what has become one of the most effectively operated transit agencies in the entire Bay Area region, I would like to thank my good friend Vic Sood. The skillful craftsmanship of his work will endure far into the future.

Before moving to California, Vic Sood made many contributions to the public in the state of Washington. He was responsible for getting transit legislation passed into law in 1974 and 1975, which allowed for the formation and financing of new public transit systems, known as Public Transit Benefit Areas.

In September 1976, Vic Sood was appointed to serve as the first Executive Director of Community Transit after voters in Snohomish County, Washington, approved a sales tax increase to finance the Snohomish County Public Transit Benefit Area Corporation in June of that year. As a result of the legislation which he had labored to get passed, many new transit agencies were likewise created throughout the state of Washington.

While Executive Director of Snohomish County Community Transit, Vic Sood also served as President of the Washington State Transit Association in 1982 and 1983 and served as a regional representative to the American Public Transit Association's (APTA) Board of Directors in 1983 and 1984.

Subsequent to the formation of LAVTA in May 1986, as a Joint Powers Agency of the cities of Dublin, Pleasanton, Livermore and Alameda County for the provision of public transit in the area, Vic Sood was hired as the General Manager and started work in January 1986.

LAVTA began operating with only nine leased buses in 1986. Under Sood's management and with a quickly growing Livermore Valley, the system expanded to meet the area's needs and by 1990 the agency had